

GAMES RESEARCH INCORPORATED

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NOTICE TO: DIPLOMACY 'ZINE EDITORS

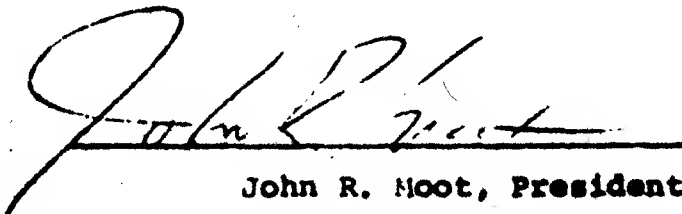
Date: February 22, 1976

We have just sold the game DIPLOMACY to Avalon Hill Company. I find it hard to part with DIPLOMACY, but I do believe it will be best for the game and for the hobby. We had not achieved wide distribution of DIPLOMACY and could not, unless we broadened our product line successfully.

Avalon Hill is a natural home for DIPLOMACY, and I believe it will benefit from being part of their strong line of games.

I have enjoyed my association with all of you, and I hope I can make the DipCon this year to see all of you once again. Through your efforts, you have established DIPLOMACY as a classic among games.

Thank you for all the help you have given us over the years.



John R. Moot, President

IMPASSABLE

Issue #62, March 1, 1976

Circulation: 152

Impassable is a postal journal of Diplomacy published and edited by John Boyer, 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013. Phone: (717) 249-1343, between 9 and 10:30 p.m., E.S.T., any night except Tuesdays. Sub to Impassable is 10/\$2.00. This is a tri-weekly gamezine, a subsidiary of Chapel Hill Publications founded in March of 1972.

Diplomacy is a registered trademark for a game invented by Allan B. Calhamer and now copyright by Avalon Hill Game Company of Baltimore, MD.

STAND-BY POOL

1972BW: Tony Albano for France

New standings: Birsan, Bear, Kador, McIlvaine, Fujihara, Brooks, Kelly, Kendter, Sr., Luft, Blank, Swies, Cooper, J., Albano.

Sometime in the near future, a list of addresses of stand-bys will be printed plus, a list of player addresses will be made available for postage.

GAME OPENINGS

CENTURION, #17. Russel Fox, 5160 Donna Ave., Tarzana, CA 91346. Mimeo. Has one opening left. GF is \$1.00 plus sub, sub rate is 11/\$3 or 12/\$3 for new subbers. Oops! GF is sub, no extra \$1 is necessary unless you are already playing in Centurion.

THE BOOK OF STAB, #39. Randolph Bart, 5160 Donna Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356, that's in care of Russel Fox at the above address! It is written up by Randolph Bart, however. Make all checks to Russel Fox. Ditto. (Do they have both types of machines on their premises?) Openings for \$2 GF + \$1 deposit + sub. Sub rate is 10/\$2.00.

PREDAWN LEFTIST #13. Ben Grossman, 29 E 9 St., #9, New York, NY 10003. Mimeo. Has openings for \$2 GF + sub. Sub rate is 8/\$2. Also has variant openings, inquire.

THE DIPLOMACY BARON #5. Rod Zaccalini, 23861 Park Belmonte, Calabasas, CA 91302. Has openings in this mimeo/offset zine. \$1 deposit + sub. Sub rate is 10/\$3. Also has openings in Global Variant. \$2 GF + \$1 deposit plus sub. Others, inquire.

(cont. page 6)

HOBBY NEWS!

Boy! News are really exploding this issue! I don't know where to start--speci-ally when I'm behind again (blame it on the early Spring weather....but, I'm going to try to make it up next issue with a gala 4th Anniversary Issue for IMPASSABLE! Send me news reports and articles!

***Well, overriding the Gordon Anderson expose is the revelation that Games Research, Inc. has sold the game, DIPLOMACY, to the wargame manufacturing firm, Avalon Hill! The cover of this issue is the photocopy of the letter which I received from John Moot.

The mind immediately tries to speculate on what this could mean for the hobby....

1) Will AH attempt to produce DIPLOMACY WORLD with their own staff? Is DW going to be backed by AH with Walt Buchanan as Editor?

2) How will AH handle the copyright violations, albeit our amateur standing, of variants of the game, DIPLOMACY, which they now own?

3) Will this mean that AH will back the annual DIPCON with financial support? Will it mean that DIPCON to be permanently based in Baltimore?

4) What will Gordon Anderson do now? Yell at Avalon Hill? Heh, heh.....

5) What will the new DIPLOMACY game set look like? Cardboard counters? Bookcase format?

6) Most important of all, will this mean a tripled, even quadrupled explosion in the postal DIPLOMACY population?

The overall impression I get is that with the ownership going to AH, the hobby will see some vast changes! Certainly, this was not expected even a few months ago, but now, what will be the future?

***Quite a few hobby productions turned up this time around. First, there's EVERYTHING #25 by Beyerlein & Beyerlein, Inc. All new publishers MUST trade with the Beyerleins if they want their games given a Boardman Number and to allow for it to be rated in any valid rating system now being used. Write to: Doug & Marie Beyerlein, 240 Hawthorne, Apt. F, Palo Alto, CA 94301.

***OVER THE BOARD is the first publication of the Diplomacy Rating Service. There are ratings for quite a few people! Obviously,

(cont. page 6)

1970BJ, Winter 1919

ITALY PROPOSES ARMISTICE

Error: Rus F Nwg H/u/, there is no Rus F Edi

Note: Italy is asking for separate seasons to propose a 4-way draw effective end 1919.

Winter 1919:

AUSTRIA(Beyerlein): SP

GERMANY(Mahler): SP

ITALY(Phillips): B F Nap (A Mos not allowed since only 1 build is allowed)

RUSSIA(Kelly): B F StP(nc), A War

SPRING 1920 and Vote due Thursday, March 18, 1976 (note to Ita: Concession to Russia vote will follow next season--GM)

Winter 1919 Positions:

Austria: a tyr, a vie, a alb, a tri, a bud, a bul (6); Germany: a mun, f hol, f hel (3); Italy: f nat, f bel, a pie, f ion, f eng, a ruh, a ven, f gre, a wal, a bur, f adr, f nap (12); Russia: a arm, a smy, a con, a sil, a ber, f bal, a den, a yor, f nth, f nwy, f nwg, f stp(nc), a war (13)

press--

Rome(Mos): The New Roman Empire wishes to propose an armistice (or, as the less enlightened insist on calling it, a "four-way draw"). And, that failing, a concession to the Russians. It is clear that the New Roman Empire will never grow beyond its present boundaries, and equally clear that a similar restriction cannot be placed on the Russians without Germanic cooperation. So if the German-speaking tribes have that result in mind, it seems pointless to spend several (game) years watching the Russians achieve a criterion.

1971Dbu, Autumn/Winter 1916

Autumn: Italy NMR. GM R A Jor OTB

Winter:

AUSTRIA(Tilson): r a ank

CHINA(Swies): b f can

ENGLAND(C.D.): sp

GERMANY(Proujansky): b a mun, will be 1 short

ITALY(Osmanson): SP, will be 1 short

JAPAN(Drews): NMR, will be 1 short

SPRING 1917 due Thursday, March 18, 1976
PLUS a 5-way Draw Vote (requested by Ger)

Winter 1916 Positions:

Austria: a sev, f bla, a arm, a bag, a con, a jor, a syr (?); China: f tim obb, f tim, f sia, f mal, f jav, f ben, a raj, a snd, a dec, a afg, a ira, a nep, a kan, a bma, f can (15); Englad: f fire (1); Germany: a stp, a oms, a mos, a ukr, a gal, a clu, a bud, a tyr, a vie, a lon, f hel, f bal, f bel, f nat, f eng, f nwg, f edi, a pic, a bre, a mun (20); Italy: f cey, f ara, f win, f mor, f sat, a ser, a tri, f red, f aeg, f ade, a nej, f ion, a spa, a ven, a gre (15); Japan: f mad, f ein, a tur, a sib, a skg, f npa obb, f npa, f spa, f mid (9).

1972BW, Summer/Fall 1920

Stand-by for France: Albano

Summer: Fra NMR. GM R F Nth OTB

Fall 1920:

FRANCE(Kelly?): NMR. f hel, a hol, a bur, a mar all hold

ITALY(Swies): f tun/con, with style/imp/r/

RUSSIA(Knudsen): f con h/r/(aeg, bla, otb),

f nat/mid, f cly-lvp, f nth-lon, f den-

nth, f bal-den, a pic-par, a gal/rum, a

boh/vie, a pie s a tyr-ven, a tyr/ven

TURKEY(Abbott): a sev/rum, a apu/ven, a tri

s a apu-ven, a vistyr, f rom h, f spa(sc)/

mid, f tyn-tun, f bul(sc) s a smy-con, a

bud/gal, f ion s f tyn-tun, f ank s a

smy-con, a smy-con

GERMANY(Davies): a kie s a ber, a ber s a kie

AUTUMN/WINTER 1920 due Thursday, March 18, 1976.

1973AYec, Spring 1730

WAR ENTERS ITS LAST YEAR...

GM Note: Don't forget that 1973AYec uses those optional rules devised for this variant. Switzerland was made passable along with ending the game in 1730. Oh well, there are very few original players left...

Spring 1730:

AUSTRIA(C.D.): a hol, a ven, a gal all hold

ENGLAND(Hubbard): NMR. a got, f nth, f

ska, f chr, f bal, f bot, a pom, a min,

f nwg, f por, a ast, a yor all hold

FRANCE(Drews): f tun-cen, a tou-tus, a tyr

h, f cre/aeg, a gra/sev, a ara-mad, a auv-

swi, a ver-ndy, a net-col, f lyo c a tou-

tus, f sty s f tun-cen, a mil s a tou-tus,

f nty s a tou-tus, a rhi s a tyr h

OTTOMANS(Osmanson): f pap(nc) s f nap,

f nap s f pap, a boh s a vie-tyr, a vie/
tyr, a bud-wal, a tra s a bul-rum, a cau
h, a sin-con, f smy/aeg

POLAND(Swies): a bra-han, a pos-bran, a kra-
pos, ~~a/111~~-est/nsu/, a pru h, a war h/u/

RUSSIA(Monahan): NMR. f ang, f sto, a var,
a mol, a rum ~~h/r/~~(bes, otb), a ast all
unordered

SPAIN(Kadlecek): f wes-sev

SUMMER/FALL 1730 due Thursday, March 18, 1976

1973BU, Fall 1922

New Player: Ron Kelly takes over control of
what's left of Italy. Hulland has resigned.

COA: Richard Kovalcik, Jr., changed his room
number. 101 Bexley Hall, 52 Mass. Ave.,
Cambridge, MA 02139.

Fall 1922: Austria and England both called
for a vote on a 2-way draw between Ger-Eng

AUSTRIA(Kovalcik): a tri s tur a apu-ven, a
boh ~~s~~ a gal, a vie s a tri, a ukr ~~s~~ a gal,
a gal ~~s~~ a boh/r/(rum, otb)

ENGLAND(Greenwell): a spa/rom, f tyn c a spa-
rom, f wes c a spa-rom, f tun s f tyn, a
mos s ger a war-ukr, a stp s a mos

GERMANY(Barents): a pie s f lyo-tus, a ven/
tri/a/, a tyr s a ven-tri, a mun/boh, a
sil s a mun-boh, a war-ukr, a liv-war, a
ber s a sil, f naf h

ITALY(Kelly): a tus ~~s~~ ger a ven/otm/a/, a
rom/nap

RUSSIA(Hendry): a sev h (big deal)

TURKEY(Blank): f nap ~~s~~ f ion, f ion s f nap,
a apu-ven, f adr s a apu-ven, f bla-con

AUTUMN/WINTER 1922 due Thursday, March 18,
1976.

Fall 1922 Supply Center Chart:

Austria: hom, gre, ser, rum (6) B1, was 1
short

England: lvp, edi, nwy, stp, swe, bel, tun,
por, spa, mos (10) b2, was 1 short

Germany: hom, den, hol, par, bre, mar, lon,
war (10) b1, lost 1

Italy: rom, ~~ten~~ (1) sp, lost 1

Russia: sev, ~~nos~~ (1) sp

Turkey: hom, bul, nap, ven (6) b1

1973CZec, Spring 1729 & Vote

Vote to concede game to Pol-Ott defeated.
Only yes vote was received from Aus/Ott.

Spring 1729 nex col.

AUSTRIA(Drews): a bav h

ENGLAND(Kadlecek): f sco(wc)-yor(wc), f lon
~~s~~ f sco-yor/imp/, f nwg ~~s~~ f nth/r/(art,
ice, cly, nat, sco(ec), otb), f nth ~~s~~ f
nwg/r/(cly, sco(ec), hel, hol, eng, otb)

FRANCE(Monahan): NMR. a net, a ndy, a rhi,
a tou, a sav all hold

OTTOMAN EMPIRE(Mahler): f bar s f wes-gib,
f wes/~~gib~~, a ast s a kie, a kie s a ast,
f bri ~~s~~ pol ~~f/nth~~-eng/nsu/, f sty/wes, f
smy-aeg, f sar s f sty-wes, f lyo-ara(sc),
f nty-lyo, a mil/sav, a tyr/rhi, a ven/
tyr, ~~a/111~~~~s~~ a ven-tyr/nsu/, a bud/vie,
a mor/vie, a bul h/u/

POLAND(Rocamora): f yor(ec)-nth, f den s f
yor(ec)-nth, f ska s f yor(ec)-nth, f
var-nwg, f chr s f var-nwg, a ang-sto, a
lap-arc, a mos h, a min/kie, a kra h, a
kas s a han-col, a han-col, a pom-han, a
sax s a boh, a boh s a kas, f pos-bal, a
bra-pom

SPAIN(Swies): a por-mad, f sev s f gib, f
mid s f gib, f gib ~~s~~ f sev, f gra h

SUMMER/FALL 1929 due Thursday, March 18, 1976

1974HN, Autumn/Winter 1906

Autumn: England r a mos-stp; Italy r a ven-
pie, f nap-apu; Russia r f ber-bal.

Winter:

AUSTRIA(Osmanson): sp

ENGLAND(Fujihara): b f lon

FRANCE(McKeon): b a mar, a par, f bre

GERMANY(Kelly): sp, will be lshort

ITALY(Swies): NMR, GM r a pie, f apu

RUSSIA(Blank): r f bul(sc)

SPRING 1907 due Thursday, March 18, 1976

Winter 1906 Positions:

Austria: f eas, a gre, a tri, a vie, a tyo,
a bud (6); England: a stp, a liv, f bar, f
nwg, f lon (5); France: a ber, a ven, f lyo,
f tyn, a tus, f tun, f nap, a mar, a par, f
bre (10); Germany: a kie, a ruh, f den, f
bot (4); Italy: f rom (1); Russia: a mos,
a ukr, a war, a boh, f aeg, a pru, f bal (7)

1974HY, Summer/Fall 1906

Summer: Russia r f den-bal

Fall:

FRANCE(McLendon): a yor-lvp, f cly s a yor-
lvp, f mid-eng, a gas-bre, a mar-spa

GERMANY(Fanelli): f lon/nth, f den ~~s~~ a kil
(cont next page)

/r/(ska, hel, otb), a kie s f den, a lvp-
edi, a par s a bur, a bur s ita a pie-mar,
a ruh-bel, a sil-ber, a war h
ITALY(Kendter, Sr.): a pie-mar, a ven-tri,
f tus-lyo, f wes-spa(sc), f ion-eas, f
aeg s a ser-bul, a ser-bul, a bud s a gal-
rum, a gal/rum
RUSSIA(Gallagher): a ukr/gal, a mos/war, f
rum h, a arm-ank, f bla-con, f nth-den,
a swe s f nth-den, f bal s f nth-den, f
nwy-nth, a sev s f rum

AUTUMN/WINTER 1906 due Thursday, March 18,
1976.

Fall 1906 Supply Center Chart:

France: bre, ~~par~~, ~~mar~~, por, spa, lvp (4) sp,
lost 1
Germany: hom, hol, bel, edi, ~~lvp~~, lon, war,
par (9) sp
Italy: hom, tun, tri, vie, gre, ser, bud,
bul, mar (11) b2
Russia: mos, stp, sev, swe, nwy, ~~par~~, rum,
ank, con, smy, den (10) sp, was 1 short

1974nd1, Summer/Fall 1022

MUNSTER NEEDS ONE MORE!

Error: English f ngc had to retreat, not
f dyf.

Summer: England r f ngc-car; Munster r a
dub-wic

Fall:

ENGLAND(Osmanson): a mon h, a glo h, a shr-
che, f cab s f car-ngc, a bue h, a mer s
a mon, f dyf s f bri, f bri s f car-ngc,
f car/ngc

MUNSTER(Hyatt): f nmi h, f sky h, f wmi-min,
f iat-wif, a mea-tar, a off-kil, a plu s
a wic-dub, a wic-dub, a spe-dal, a oma s
a spe-dal, a arm s a spe-dal, a tyr-ern,
a wat h, a nsg h, f stg s f nsg, f ssg s
f nsg, f wex s f nsg

ORKNEY(C.D.): f man, f kin, f isl all hold,
a dal ~~k/a~~

SCOTLAND(Fanelli): f dub ~~k/dr~~b, mou, otb),
f sis s ong f car-nsg, a dow s ork a dal
a lis-sut, a dur h

AUTUMN/WINTER 1022 due Thursday, March 18,
1976.

Fall 1022 Supply Center Chart:

England: hom, bue, mon, car, shr, pow, der
(9) sp
Munster: hom, lei, tua, mea, ros, sli, tar,
kil, cor, wex, don, dub, oma, arm, heb,

sky (18)

Orkney: ~~sky~~, man, kin, ~~par~~, cai (3) sp, has
only 3 units

Scotland: hom, new, dow, dur (6) bl

1975G, Summer 1906

Note: Germany has requested separate seasons
since retreats for France are many. Granted.
Also! Lee Kendter, Sr. is the new player for
France. Joe Kirk has resigned. I apologize
for the mix-up over Lee since I forgot that
Lee's son played Turkey in this game! But,
Lee Kendter, Sr. is a different person from
Lee ("Butch") Kendter, Jr. because I've met
both in Philly.

Summer 1906: France r f mid-nat, a bur-gas
Summer 1906 Positions:

Austria(Hinmon): a ser, a bud, a tri
England(Cooper): a nwy, f bar, f eng, f bre
France(Kendter, Sr.): a gas, a spa, f nat
Germany(Amer): f nth, f fin, a ber, a mun,
a bur, a par, a boh, a tyr
Italy(Young): a vie, a alb, f gre, f adr,
a ven.

FALL 1906 orders due Thursday, March 18, 1976

1975T, Spring 1905

AUSTRIA(Mahler): a gal-ukr, a war s tur a
sev-mos, a pie-mar, a tyr s ger a mun,
a ven s tur a apu-rom, f bul(sc)-gre, f
adr s tur f aeg-ion, a pru s ger a ber,
a vie-boh

ENGLAND(Fujihara): a stp/mos, a liv s a
stp-mos, f hot s a liv h, f swe h, f nth
h, a den h, f bal s a liv h

FRANCE(Lawson): a kie ~~s~~ ENG a den-ber/nso/
a ruh s a bur-mun, a bur-mun, a mar/pie,
f tyn s ita f nap, f tun/ion

GERMANY(Warden): a ber s a mun, a mun ~~s~~ a
ber

ITALY(Bizsan): f nap ~~s~~ f nap-rom/imp/
f tus/rom

RUSSIA(Lakoffka): A MOS HOLDS!

TURKEY(Brooks): a sev/mos, a apu-rom, f
ion/nap, f aeg/ion

FALL 1905 due Thursday, March 18, 1976

1975AF, Winter 1905

Note: Sorry, Buz, orders were A Gas-Par.
Vote: Concession to Russia defeated. Only
1 yes vote received from Russia, of course!

Winter 1905:

AUSTRIA(Johnson): b a bud, f tri
 FRANCE(Carlton): r a tus
 GERMANY(Eddy): sp
 ITALY(C.D.): sp
 RUSSIA(Goldston): b f stp(nc), a mos, a war
 TURKEY(Morphy): sp

SPRING 1906 due Thursday, March 18, 1976 PLUS
 Vote on 2-way draw between Rus-Aus (proposed
 by Germany)

Winter 1905 Positions:

Austria: a bud, f tri, a vie, a gre, f ven,
 f ion, f nap (7); France: f wal, a lon, f
 eng, f mid, a pie, f tyn (6); Germany: f
 wes, a mar, a par, a ruh, a mun, f kie, f
 nth (7); Italy: a rom (1); Russia: f stp(nc)
 a mos, a war, f den, a edi, f nwg, a tyr,
 a rum, a ank, f bla, a bul (11); Turkey:
 f aeg, a con (2).

Press--

St. Petersburg, Dec. 15--The state visit of
 His Imperial Austrian Majesty, Wilhelm III,
 to the Russian capital has been marked by
 the warm and cordial atmosphere. Although
 no official word has been released, rumor
 has it that the conversations between the
 Czar and the Austrian Kaiser have been most
 encouraging. The Austrian monarch will
 return to Vienna shortly.

1975CS, Autumn/Winter 1903

Autumn 1903: England NMR. GM R F Bre OTB;
 Russia R A Rum-Ser

Winter 1903:

AUSTRIA(Blank): SP, lost Ser (Walter--Jim
 Cooper is playing Italy)
 ENGLAND(Strittmatter): NMR GM R F Wal
 FRANCE(Stephens): sp
 GERMANY(McDonald): b a kie
 ITALY(Cooper, J.): sp
 RUSSIA(Albano): b a sev, a mos (owns Ser)
 TURKEY(Kendter, Sr.): r f aeg

SPRING 1904 due Thursday, March 18, 1976.

Winter 1903 Positions:

Austria: a tyo, a rum, f gre, f adr, a bud,
 a vie (6); England: a lvp, f den (2); France:
 f eng, f iri, f mid, a bre, a bur (5); Ger-
many: a edi, a bel, f nth, a mun, a ber, a
 kie (6); Italy: a tun, fion, f tyn, a ven
 (4); Russia: f bal, f nwy, a gal, a war, a
 con, f bla, a ser, a sev, a mos, a den (10);
Turkey: a smy (1)

GAME OPENINGS, CONT.

THE POUCH, #8 (or whatever it is now),
 Gil Neiger, Box 4293, Brown University,
 Providence, RI 02912. Mimeo. Openings
 for \$5 GF or \$1 plus a sub. Sub is 10/\$2.
 IMPASSABLEIMPASSABLEIMPASSABLEIMPASSABLEIMPA
 EREHWON, #94. Rod Walker, 1273 Crest Dr.,
 Encinitas, CA 92024. Ditto. No openings,
 but does need stand-bys who will be required
 to write press if they take over. Replace-
 ment players pay 25¢ a season. Sub is 5/\$1.
 That's all folks! The rest of this short
 issue will be devoted to hobby news....

HOBBY NEWS, CONT.

this is a going concern. The publication
 is printed offset and is nicely done. All
 the games from last year's DipCon have been
 rated. The system, it should be noted, was
 developed for non-postal games although, I
 understand, postal games can also be rated.
 If you want to have your face-to-face games
 rated, contact DIPLOMACY RATING SERVICE,
 P.O. Box 731, Lynnwood, WA 98036.
 ***From Peter Berggren, publisher/editor of
 TURNABOUT, I got a Bicentennial Calendar!
 Thanks Peter! His zine, by the way, is very
 nicely done and is offset. Pictures of
 himself plus those of Walt Buchanan, Robert
 Lipton, Lew Pulsipher and Len Lakofka were
 included! That's one way of getting to see
 who they look like (Lee, you don't have my
 picture, right? Whew!) Subs are 8/\$2.00.
 He has an opening in the Postal Diplomacy
 Tournament at GF of \$1 plus sub PLUS PDT
 entry fee.
 ***THE INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATIONS
 PUBLISHER'S HANDBOOK is now available! This
 offset handbook for publishers is very well
 written (though much of it by Len Lakofka)
 and is a bargain at \$2.50 to non IDA members
 and \$2 for IDA members. This has EVERYTHING
 you would need to know about publishing a
 postal Dippyazine! Highly recommended, even
 for us established pubbers! As a result of
 reading it, any future games in IMPASSABLE
 will use subscription payment rather than
 the old lump sum system.
 ***YGGDRASIL CHRONICLE has announced they
 will phase out of the hobby, but will
 complete their games. That's good news--to
 hear of a planned phase-out with no one
 getting hurt! Wish everyone were like them.
 ***FRED DAVIS has included his new revision
 of UNITED STATES DIPLOMACY III. Bushwacker
 is Fred's variant gamezine. Well printed

and very reliable, it is available at a sub of 12/\$2.50. Needs stand-bys, but they pay \$3.50 which includes rules and sub. Write to: Fred C. Davis, Jr., 3012 Oak Green Ct., Ellicott City, MD 21043.

***From TURNABOUT, I learn that William Young of P.O. Box 907, Clearfield, PA 16830 would like to know if there are any interested persons who would be interested in a face-to-face Dip game in March. Contact Bill. Location and time are negotiable.

***PRINCETON DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS CONVENTION 1976 is going to be held at Whig Hall on the Princeton University Campus on March 19 thru 21. Time to start: 7 p.m. Friday. There will be a "Princeton Super-Dungeon". Rooms will be arranged free on campus, or you can make hotel arrangements with, for example; Nassau Inn, Palmer Square, Princeton (609-921-7500). For further inquiries phone any of the following people:

Howard Mahler, 135 Bayard Lane, Princeton, NJ 08540 (609-924-4990), Steven Tihor (609-452-7499), or Mike Small (609-452-0716).

During the convention, call Whig Hall 452-3626 or 452-3662. Might bring sleeping bags if there is a shortage of beds! Fee for entry is only 50¢, no cash prizes.

***The first published report of I.D.A.'s Evaluation Commission has arrived here. The regional director for the Atlantic Coast is William Clumm. International Director is no longer Robert Correll, but Roger Oliver, POB 452, Denville, NJ 07834. Dippy publications which accepted evaluation by IDAEC and are listed as "acceptable publications" are as follows: Austerlitz, Ernie Demanalis, 108 Wilson Ave., Morgantown, WV 26505.

Black Hole, Douglas Reif, 57 Grosvenor Rd., Kenmore, NY 14223. Bushwacker, Fred Davis (see elsewhere in hobby news for address),

The Diplomatic Journal, Roger Oliver; Impassable, John Boyer (that's me); Morovian

Gazette, Robert Goldman, 200 Old Army Rd., Scarsdale, NY; Narsil, Ed Kollmer, Box 151, Maitopac, NY 10541; Pen & Sword, Mike Lind, c/o Ethyl Corp., Vis Queen Div., Norman and Lewis Rds., Sandston, VA 23150; Quendi

Khazed Dum, William Clumm, R.R. #1, Amesville OH 45711; Stab, Charles Spiegel, 4517 Springfield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143; Tetra-

cuspid, Richard Kovalcik, Jr., Rm. 101 Bexley Hall, 52 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139; Turnabout (see elsewhere) Peter

Berggren; Valinor, Michael Muchnik, 2520 Hyacinth Court, Westbury, NY 11590.

You will note, I only got the listing for

the Atlantic Coast region...

Acceptable Gamesmasters (these may or may not also be publishers, hence, the separate listing): John Baker, Peter Berggren, John Boyer, William Clumm, Fred Davis, Ernie Demanalis, Ed Kollmer, Richard Kovalcik, Mike Lind, Roger Oliver, Douglas Reif, Charlie Spiegel, Michael Muchnik. Information is given including number of games gamesmastering, which ranges from a low of 1 game to 13 games (guess who!).

We of IMPASSABLE praise the efforts of the IDAEC to help encourage better dippy publishing standards. Well done Robert!

***Before we get on to the Gordon Anderson story, let me print a fairly short reply by Len Lakofka to Lew Pulsipher's remarks made in Verhandeln #6 (Impassable #61).

"I agree with Lew that country preferences lists are best, but many players do not send them in. In such a case I use the lists I do have and assign the other countries by lot (unless I know a certain player is playing the same country elsewhere, in which case I'll try to not give it to him again).

I am opposed to dropping a player if he drops from a game played under the same house rules. The player is paying for the games separately in most cases and thus does have an option. I will not place dropped players on my sub list nor will I let them play in a new game. Certainly that is a good rule. I would consider dropping a player from all houserule games for deception of the GM, etc. But even that is controversial.

I am in 100% accord on not having multiple players enter from the same telephone area code. It is unfair to the others.

Draw votes should be unanimous with a missed vote being a 'no' vote. Again, I agree with Lew as I have said in the Publisher's Handbook all draw votes should be by secret ballot with no tallies--either the vote is either unanimous or it is not."

((I must reply to Len's and Lew's remarks concerning draw votes. I am vehement, that is, opposed to the utmost, against secret draw votes. To borrow a term from Andy Phillips, a draw in real-life wars would really be a truce, armistice or whatever. It would be agreed to by all with no one being able to "fool" another. It would be signed on a piece of paper and troops would all stop attacking. Violations would be quite readily noticed. Hence, draws in real-life wars don't fool anybody--only later are "draws" (armistices) broken... Also, I play the postal game from the viewpoint of face-to-face play in which a vote

HOBBY NEWS, CONT.

is generally made public.))

Len also has his comments on other statements made by Lew, but I'm going to hold them until next issue...

***THE VIKING'S NEWS-LETTER, #7 arrived a week ago here. It is undoubtedly the worst piece of propaganda I have ever read from Gordon Anderson. He attacks just about anyone of note (even me). Just to give the "titles" of his various "articles" should be enough:

"G.R.I.s RAPE OF THE DIPLOMACY HOBBY"

THE IDA HAS ANOTHER CROOKED ELECTION"

To top it, the ghost of The Fighter's Home is raised again when Gordon Anderson requests all players from that zine to contact him to get their games going since, he says, Daniel Gorham (the last publisher of TFH) asked him to take them over....

The funniest thing of all is Gordon's explanation of the delay in his postal games:

Briefly, it says that on September 30, 1975 he was beaten and robbed on his way home through Chicago. He was taken to a hospital and he also lost a lot of the game orders for his games. Of course, it isn't until January that he mentions this....

Of course, the money on the prize funds for the 1974 & 1975 DIPCON tourneys have yet to be paid...

***Doug Beyerlein, Boardman Custodian (I should say, "Co-Custodian sharing with his wife the duties") has a few words to say of the latest Gordon Anderson attacks...

"You implied in your newsletter that somehow Walt Buchanan controls the assignment of Boardman Numbers (you stated: "What will you do if they refuse to give you a Boardman Number because Walter Buchanan says you don't fit into his stupid little rules?") That is completely false. Walt Buchanan has absolutely no control over the Boardman Numbers. I control and assign Boardman Numbers. Anyone who supplies me with the necessary information (the zine's name, the gamesmaster's name, and the full names and addresses for the player-country assignments) will receive a Boardman Number. In addition, anyone who trades with me will have their games' finishes reported in EVERYTHING. It is then up to the various ratingskeepers to individually decide whether or not a game should be rated. Again, Walt Buchanan has no say in this matter. Walt Buchanan is a member of the Boardman Number Custodian's staff and his only job is to supply information on finished games that is missing from

my files. Thus, your statements on this subject are completely false."

Next issue, perhaps, I will try to print all of Edi Birsan's comments on the now infamous #7 Newsletter by Gordon Anderson... how I wish I could photo-copy his newsletter and run off copies for everyone, but then I don't want to be charged with copyright violations...I'll see if I can write up a News Summary....

***GEMIGNANI AWARDS BALLOT II is out, but I don't feel like printing it up. It is, first of all, a childish form of backlash poll. Admittedly, the second ballot is a bit better than the first (it doesn't have any reference whatsoever to me or my publications...), but the purpose is negative and I oppose negative type of polls.

***Did I tell you about my last trip to Philadelphia? I went in the middle of February, er, January, to visit Bob Fanelli who held a Diplomacy get-together. Several from IMPASSABLE were there such as Bob, Lee Kendter and his son, Bill McDonough, a subber, and a few other friends in the Philly area. This was the third time for me to visit Philadelphia area for Diplomacy face-to-face. Thanks for a great time, fellas!

It has been awhile since I listed what was available for sale from Chapel Hill Publications....first, there's practically complete coverage of past issues of IMPASSABLE, only a few are missing. Inquire if you want to complete your collection of this fine gamezine...15¢ each, 35¢ specials

Secondly, I have supplies of several variants:

Scotice Scripti III (John Boyer) 30¢

Europe 1721 (John Boyer) 30¢

Empire I (John Boyer) 15¢

The Maya (John Boyer) 30¢

Middle Earth VIII (Lew Pulsipher) 30¢

All are four page maps except for Empire I which is a single sheet map.

When I find time, I'll produce a space variant and perhaps a fantasy variant. I also have in mind an economic type of Diplomacy game, all will have extensive variant rules and maps.

Also, I have on sale the 1974 IDA Player's Handbook for \$2.00 to IDA members (please make checks out to I.D.A.) and \$3.00 to non-members.

One of these days I'll get around to selling my unwanted wargames....

Let me see, okay, there's enough time and space to print Verhandel'n #7, so turn this page and read! (end of news)

VERHANDELN

by Lewis Pulsipher

Potpourri

I suppose it's natural for a hobby to be conservative. People often stay in a hobby because they feel comfortable among the people and situations--so they tend to oppose whatever might change it. It is sometimes amazing, though, how DIPLOMACY people, especially some who date back to the 60's, can substitute traditionalism for thinking. A good example is the not-so-recent dispute about reprinting material. Some people seemed to think that this was OK if only if it could be proved that it was traditional. Did that really have anything to do with whether it was right, whether anyone was being cheated or trampled upon? Of course not. But it was easier to appeal to tradition (and convenient for some, of course). This is not to say that tradition is always wrong--after all, it must have worked for many people in the past or it wouldn't be traditional to begin with--but I hope we'll see more thinking and less "traditionalizing" in the future.

A preoccupation that also seems common among the old-timers is the "I was first" syndrome, as I call it. You can find some people who seem extremely proud to have originated this or that (and, usually, they actually didn't, or it was independently originated many times). Often this is tied with playing reputations--"I was first to use such-and-such opening" (as if several people hadn't done so independently). "I was first to suggest such-and-such for orphans", and so on ad nauseam. Sometimes it seems more important to these people (only a few of them, admittedly) to determine who was first than to make progress now. Even people who otherwise seem quite reasonable puff up their chests for an "I was first" (so who cares) at times. There are occasions when one must mention who was first to keep the historical record straight, not to brag; but as much (if not more) credit ought to go to those who put ideas into effect or who spread some practice throughout the hobby than to those who first conceived them.

Have you noticed how people talk sometimes about player reputations, as though you could lose a reputation once made. Actually, it's quite difficult. Those who criticize people for not entering tournaments "because they're afraid to lose their reputations" aren't thinking. Has anyone ever suffered a decrease in reputation from losing a tournament? Not that I know of. Tournaments can only help your reputation, not hurt it. If Doug Beyerlein or Edi Birsan doesn't win the annual FTF tournament, or even come close, people say so what, they had bad luck with novices or something. That may be true, but the point is that the excuse is always there, no matter what the real reason may be, and so reputations don't suffer. Relative unknowns can gain a reputation (or be confirmed in lack of reputation or in a bad reputation) --how many people knew who Blank and Wartenburg were before CITEX?--but that's all. Once you're on top, then there is always available the excuse that people are ganging up on you because of your record, and that's why you don't do well any more. There is some truth in that, but sometimes it is more a result of one's playing style. For example, if Brenton Ver Ploeg, the infamous stabber had continued playing, probably he would have had a difficult time. Would it have been because of his record or because people knew he couldn't be trusted in the long-run. I think Edi Birsan is a good example of a player whose playing style, not his record, finally caught up to him. Other people with very good records, but who have not used the stabbing style or another style not calculated to make friends, continue to do well despite the tendency of people to gang up on those with good records.

I would like to see some people who receive many zines write summaries of some of the current topics and controversies in the hobby. For example, lately a number of articles have appeared about playing styles and types of players. Some people, I am sure, would like to know what has been said, but don't receive many zines and haven't seen many of the articles. As an example, I would be interested in reading such a summary, with the writer's own conclusion, and including a bibliography. Something like this, well done, would deserve distribution in Diplomacy World or some other large zine. Another subject worth summarizing might be game theory and DIPLOMACY. No doubt there will be others. You don't have to think of yourself as a DIPLOMACY expert to do this, you just need access to many zines and a reasonable mind.

((Thanks, Lew! I want to say that I'm planning a series of articles to be written by myself on my own victories in postal Diplomacy--and why I have won so many in a few number of games entered. My record is now 5 wins, 1 second, 1 3-way draw, 1 third and one loss))

JOKES AND SIMILAR FILLER

"What's up?" cried White as his fraternity brother hopped from bed at three in the morning.

"I am," answered Huenink.

* * *

Gleue: "Darling, will you marry me?"

Forseth: "No, but I'll always admire you for your choice."

* * *

Bicentennial Quote:

"When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."

--Jefferson, Declaration of Independence

* * *

NEXT ISSUE! Verhandel'n #8, Lakofka replies to Pulsipher!, Why I win, first of a series by this poor boy, Organization Is the Gateway to the Future by John Boyer (poor boy), letters to the Editor and much, much more PLUS our regular favorite feature: HOBBY NEWS! Don't miss it!!

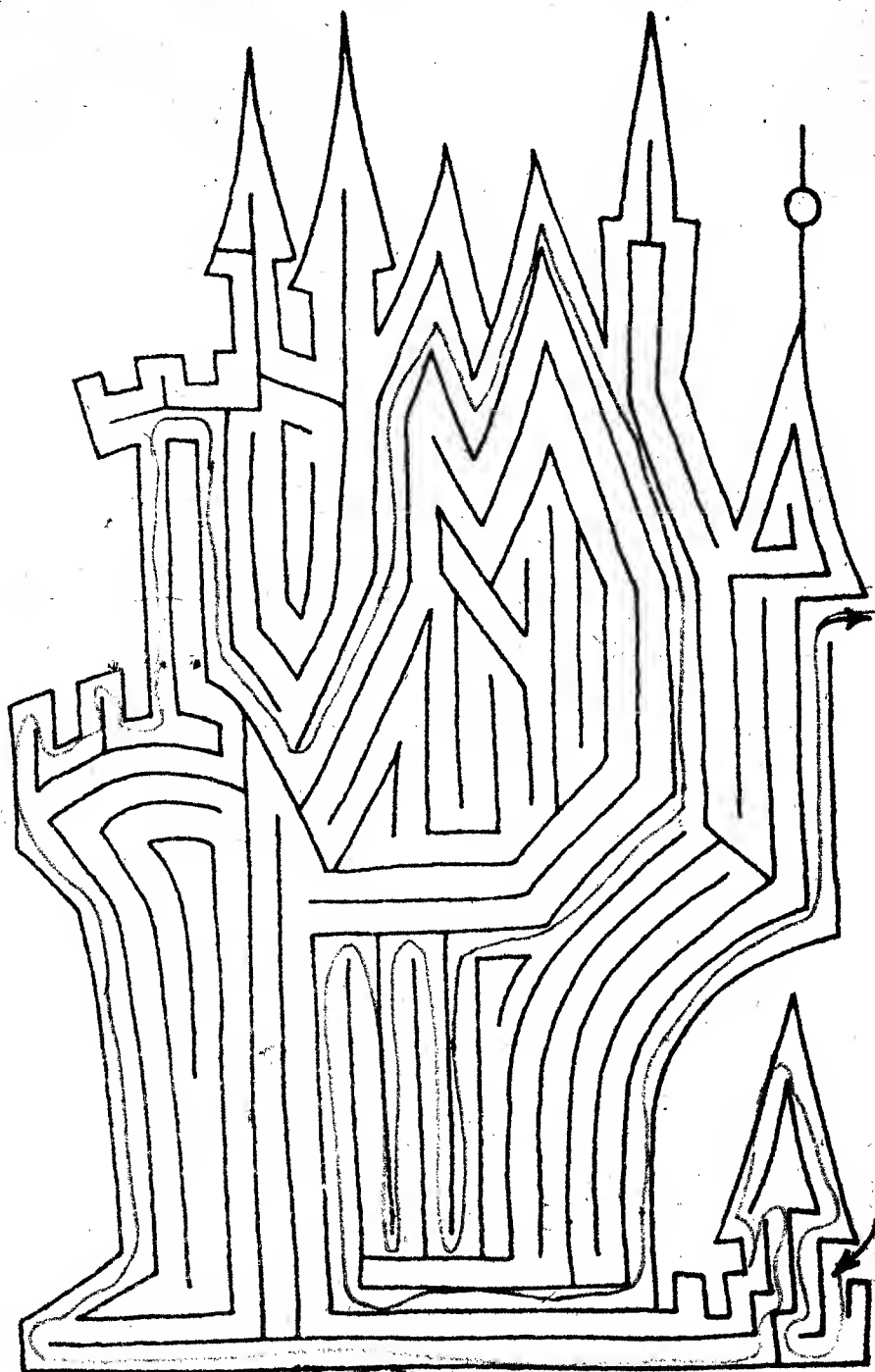
IMPASSABLE #62

117 Garland Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013

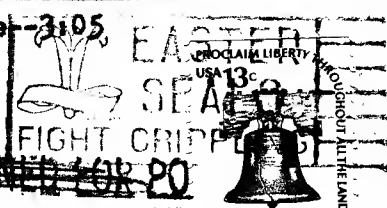
Your sub is finished ____
Please trade? ____
Stand-by Request ____

DEADLINE: Friday, March 19th

FIRST CLASS MAIL



CASTLE IMPASSABLE Challenge Time: 3:05



Scott Marley
12682 Swidler
Santa Ana, CA 92705

S-65

first class mail